

BILL NO. 22-12

1st Reading: 06/13/2022

2nd Reading: _____

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

ORDINANCE NO. 22-__

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles, Code of the City of Newark, Delaware, By Removing the "No Right-Turn Restrictions" on Eastbound Amstel Avenue, onto Southbound Orchard Road and Removing the "No Left-Turn Restrictions" on Northbound Orchard Road onto Westbound Amstel Avenue

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK HEREBY ORDAINS:

That Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles, Article XXIV, Theft, Unauthorized Use of Vehicles, Code of the City of Newark, Delaware, be hereby amended in the following respects:

AMENDMENT 1: Delete Section 20-222-1A, No right-turn restrictions in its entirety as follows:

~~"Sec. 20-222-1A — No right-turn restrictions.~~

~~(1) Amstel Avenue, eastbound, onto Orchard Road, southbound, effective 30 days prior to the opening of the garage for the University of Delaware's Center for the Arts.~~

AMENDMENT 2: "Sec. 20-221, No left-turn restrictions, by deleting the stricken text and adding the underlined text as follows:

(14) Reserved Orchard Road, northbound, onto Amstel Avenue westbound,
effective approximately midway through traffic counting phase of the future
University of Delaware Center for the Arts garage onto Elkton Road.

MOTION for Acceptance as First Reading on June 13, 2022.

by Council Member Creecy.

Second Reading and Final Passage on _____.

VOTE: ____ to ____.

Mayor


Attest:




**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

June 3, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Mark Farrall, Deputy Chief of Police 

Via: Thomas Coleman, City Manager 

Subject: Bill 22-12 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 20, Motor Vehicles, Code of the City of Newark, Delaware, to remove "No Right-Turn" restrictions on Amstel Avenue, eastbound, onto Orchard Road, southbound, per Sec 20-221A, and to remove the "No Left-Turn" restrictions on Orchard Road, northbound, onto Amstel Avenue, westbound, per Sec. 20-221.

Background

In 2004, Council approved implementing a "No Right Turn" restriction from eastbound Amstel Avenue onto southbound Orchard Road and a "No Left Turn" restriction from northbound Orchard Road onto westbound Amstel Avenue. These two restrictions were implemented in response to the upcoming construction of the UD's performing arts building with concerns that it would add to traffic on Orchard Road.

In April of 2022, a Newark Resident submitted a request to Councilman Suchanec requesting that the right turn restriction on Amstel Avenue at Orchard Road be rescinded to allow residents who patronize retailers on South Main and Amstel Avenue to gain access to the neighborhood rather than inserting themselves into UD traffic on Delaware Avenue and South College Avenue. This request was forwarded from Councilman Suchanec via Tom Coleman to the Traffic Committee for review.

While conducting research in advance of the Traffic Committee meeting, it was discovered that the No Left Turn restriction from northbound Orchard Avenue onto westbound Amstel Avenue was never posted even though it had been codified following Council approval. In 2004 when Council approved this restriction, they delayed this left turn restriction until "effective approximately midway through the traffic counting phase of a future traffic study." It is believed that there was never a traffic study completed and therefore, the restriction was never posted with signage.

On May 17, 2022, the Traffic Committee met to consider the recommendation. Only one resident attended the meeting, the same resident who made the request. That resident spoke in favor of the request citing that it would ease travel restrictions on residents.

The committee voted 5 to 0 in support of removing the restrictions.

Sec. 20-221A. - No right-turn restrictions.

- (1) Amstel Avenue, eastbound, onto Orchard Road, southbound, effective 30 days prior to the opening of the garage for the University of Delaware's Center for the Arts.

(Ord. No. 04-8, Amend. No. 1, 5-24-04)

SCHEDULE XIII